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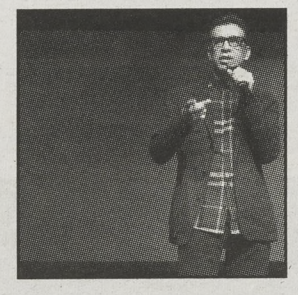
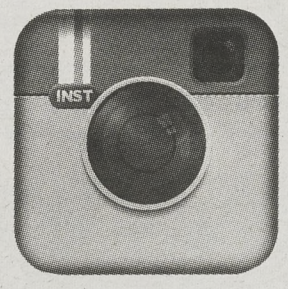
FAREWELL KEVIN MACDONALD
We will not miss the controversial psychology professor
OPINIONS, PAGE 4



'PORTLANDIA' ON TOUR
Fred Armisen gives fans a look into his popular sketch show
DIVERSIONS, PAGE 6



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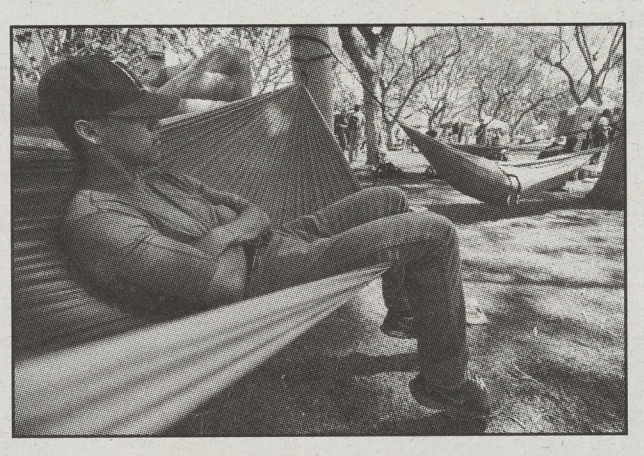


It's a zoo at The Beach

Above: A carnival themed set provides the entrance to College of Engineering advisor Tu Ngo's mediation circle Tuesday on upper campus.

Left: Sophomore construction engineering major, Jorge Ortez, takes a break between classes, sitting in a hammock and listening to a poetry reading by Project Ocean members during Tuesday's carnival hosted by Project Ocean.

SARAH BOREAN | DAILY 49ER

GROW BEACH?

University Garden weeding out issues

BY NICOLETTE NORRIS
Staff Writer

Plans for the Cal State Long Beach community garden have been underway for several months now, but there is one big factor delaying its progress: no one has assumed responsibility for it.

Associated Students Inc. Vice President Jonathon Bolin and the project's founder, senior engineering major Vincent Holguin, said the Grow Beach! University Garden is facing delays because of a misunderstanding with administration.

Holguin and Bolin met with students involved in the project along with a few CSULB administrators Thursday to further discuss the project.

"After meeting with [CSULB] administration last year, we were introduced to the idea of creating a student organization to facilitate and manage the university garden," Holguin said. "As of March 2014, administration explained that the university garden couldn't be facilitated and managed by a student organization."

Jeff Klaus, associate vice president for student services and dean of students, explained that a student organization couldn't oversee the garden because it is not an independent, legal entity.

"If a student group is responsible for that plot of land and the liability associated with that, who has the oversight?" Klaus said. "If something goes wrong, it could be a significant amount of money."

Klaus said that ASI, which operates several facilities on campus including the recycling center and the Soroptimist House, or one of the colleges would be better suited to run the garden.

"In terms of Student Life and Development, they're not in the business of running a garden," he said. "It could be housed with one of our academic units, due to the great opportunities for connecting in class lessons with hands-on learning experiences at the garden."

Bolin said he thinks a better idea is to place responsibility for the garden under the university.

"The project has grown outside of Associated Students Inc.," Bolin said. "Not only students will be using the garden,

See *GARDEN*, Page 2

Students want Dream Resource Center to become a reality

The center would provide a safe space and trained staff to assist AB 540 students.

BY JUSTINE DELA ROSA
Assistant City Editor

Some students behind the resolution to bring a Dream Resource Center to campus believe that administration is not doing enough to make it a reality even though the leader of the Assembly Bill 540 task force says otherwise.

Associated Students Inc. Senator-at-Large Erika Suarez, who is an AB 540 student and representative on the task force, said AB 540 students are not being made a priority by administration.

AB 540, which was signed into law in 2001, allows eligible undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at public universities, according to the CSULB Office of Government, Legislative and Community Relations.

Suarez, who is also a member of Future Underrepresented Educated Leaders, has worked alongside ASI Secretary for Cultural Diversity Elizabeth Zambrano, since the fall to lead the charge for creating a DRC at Cal State Long Beach.

"Our call right now to staff and administration is to stand up with us, to stand up for undocumented students and to help them succeed," Suarez said. "This is an urgent issue, and the university is not making [AB 540] students a priority in their agenda."

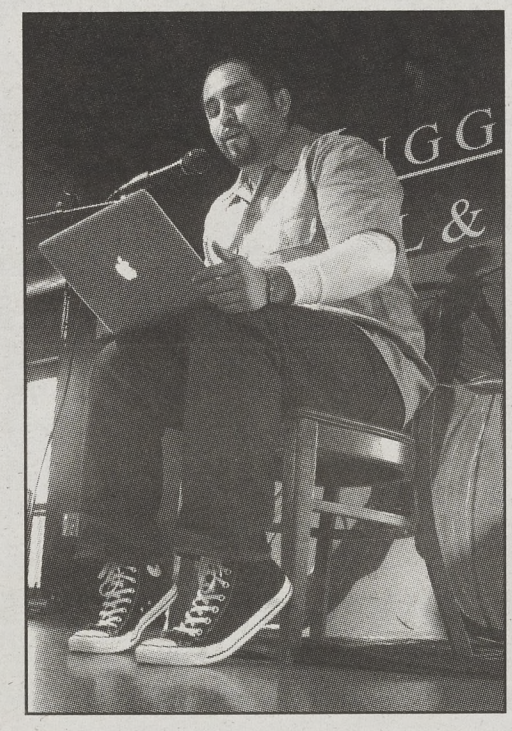
However, Manuel Perez, interim associate vice president for student services and AB 540 task force leader, said administration has accomplished more than it has in the past with regards to helping undocumented students. He said CSULB is heading in the right direction.

"I can't speak on behalf of administration, but in my opinion, there is a strong possibility that this resource center will become a reality," Perez said. "I am hopeful, and I think we are headed in that direction."

The proposed DRC would provide a safe space and trained staff for undocumented students who attend CSULB under AB 540. At the center, undocumented students would be provided important resources and services, such as financial aid help and counseling.

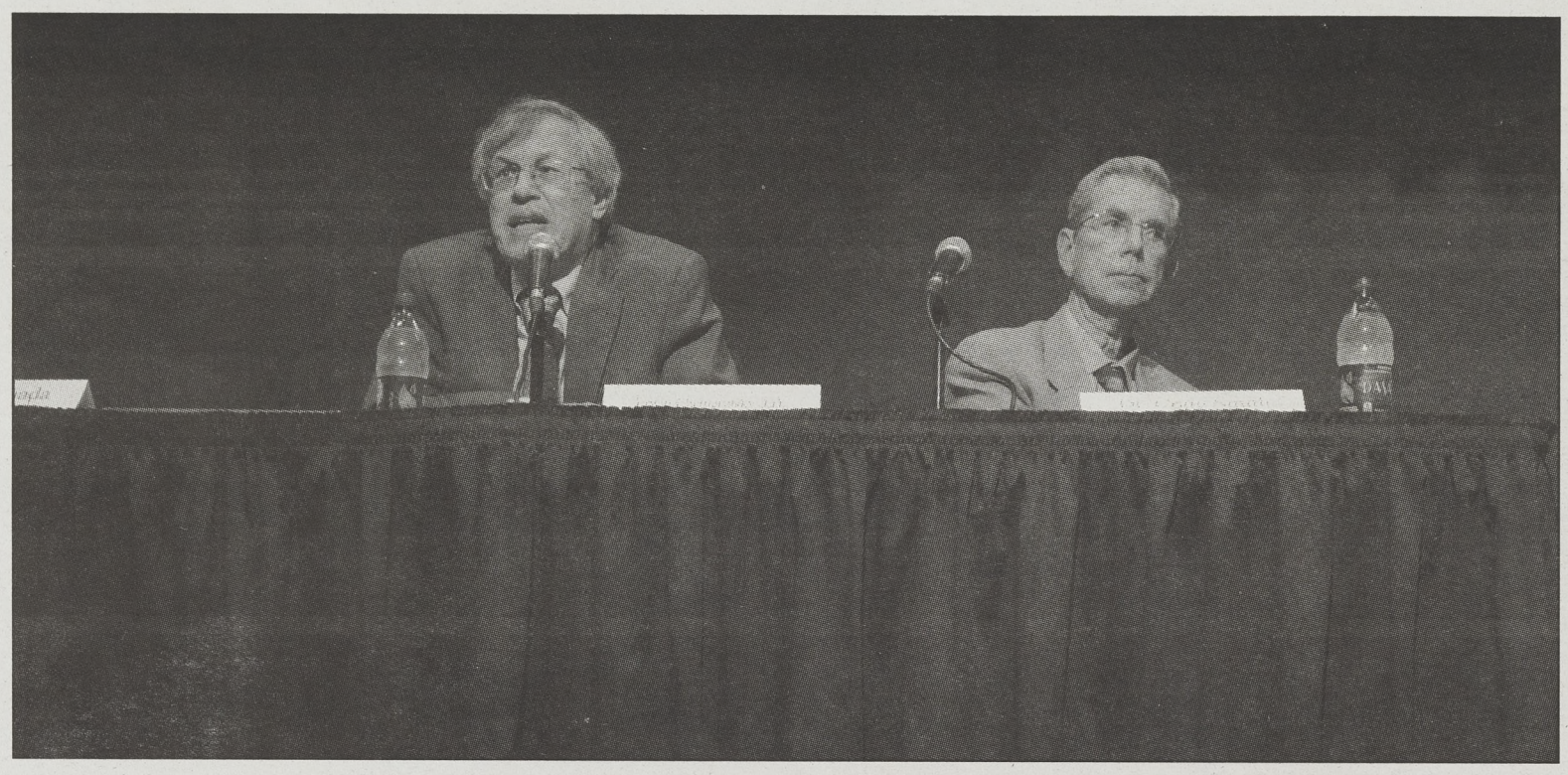
In Fall 2013, FUEL approached CSULB Interim President Donald Para to express the need for a DRC and other special services. In response, Para created a task force of about eight faculty and staff members, Perez said. Perez serves as the leader of this group while Suarez has the role of student representative.

See *DREAM*, Page 3



Senior Chicano Studies major, Alexis Nava Teodoro, performs a poem about his experience as part of an undocumented family in the United States during the FUEL open mic event on Tuesday in the Nugget Grill and Pub.

SARAH BOREAN | DAILY 49ER



MICHAEL ARES | DAILY 49ER

Craig Smith, director of the Center for First Amendment Studies at Cal State Long Beach, and Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of the School of Law at University of California, Irvine, speak about First Amendment issues in the Beach Auditorium on Tuesday.

Panelists discuss free speech on college campuses

Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of the School of Law at UC Irvine, was among the speakers at the event.

BY EMILY RASMUSSEN
Staff Writer

Student Life and Development and the Multicultural Center held a panel in the University Student Union Tuesday to discuss issues surrounding First Amendment rights and how they pertain to free speech on college campuses.

The panel opened with videos displaying content about Westboro Baptist Church, a Kansas-based church known for its extreme ideologies against gay people and for picketing military funerals, and the Genocide Awareness Project, a traveling exhibit that compares abortions to genocide.

The two main speakers at the event were Craig Smith, director of the Center for First Amendment Studies on campus, and Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of the School of Law at University of California, Irvine.

Chemerinsky opened the discussion with the meaning of the First Amendment and its importance to democracy and government.

"The First Amendment exists to protect the speech that we don't like," Chemerinsky said. "The speech that makes us uncomfortable — even the speech we detest."

Chemerinsky said the First Amendment allows people to push for policy changes within a democratic society and to say basically anything they want, without being prohibited.

"Imagine if in the South in the late 1950s or early 1960s, a city said there can be no demonstrations on civil rights," Chemerinsky said. "It would have tremendously limited the power of people to build support to change the law and to change society."

Chemerinsky said he is a believer in the concept that "the best remedy for the speech we don't like should be more speech."

Smith said the standards for speech protected under the First Amendment present a difficult dilemma for campus officials. He says that some of the broad definitions of hate speech cause problems for campus officials trying to protect students' best interests, while staying true to the First Amendment.

Chemerinsky said he agrees that these gray areas seem to be a hard line to draw between, as to what is seen as "threatening speech" and freedom of expression.

Aside from student free speech issues, the rights of professors are also an issue when it comes to rights inside of the classroom. Smith says that more education on the meaning of the First Amendment could help with issues inside the classroom.

One newer idea in place at some campuses is professors using "trigger notifications" on their class syllabi, Smith said. Trigger notifications are disclaimers about course material containing potentially traumatic subject matter so students can know ahead of time what to expect and opt out of attending class that day, he said.

University of California, Santa Barbara students have been pushing their professors to get these trigger notifications implemented into their curriculum, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Jeff Klaus, dean of students and associate vice president of student services, joined the panel discussion about how free speech issues affect Cal State Long Beach.

"Our job is to help students understand what the rules and regulations are … so we can educate more people," Klaus said.

Larisa Hamada, director of the Office of Equity and Diversity, said the department is responsible for addressing issues relating to students feeling offended or discriminated against by different forms of expression.

"We can build an environment for learning of all different diverse perspectives, so it is a welcoming environment for everyone," Hamada said.

Junior geography major Natalie Ortega said she was glad she attended the panel.

"What I took away from this discussion is that we need to educate each other and not remain ignorant to other people's feelings and attitudes," Ortega said.

GARDEN

Continued from Page 1

but faculty would like to use the space for class, 49er Shops has shown interest to grow food for the Chartroom, and engineering classes [could use the space as well]."

The committee explained the progress it has made thus far in the project.

"We have a funding model to generate up to $8,000 a year," Bolin said.

Junior political science major and ASI Vice President-elect for 2014-15, Nayiri Baghdassarian, is also involved with the project.

"We have a plan for how [the garden] is going to be run, we have money and we have manpower," she said.

Klaus said Physical Planning and Facilities Management agreed to cover the start-up costs of the garden, which was originally planned to sit adjacent to the Housing and Residential Life office, west of Parking Lot 14.

Regardless of the garden's location, Klaus said he is very confident that it is going to happen.

"[This project] is some of the best work I have seen by students on this campus in my 17 years," Klaus said. "It really shows how committed the students are to making this happen."

The team will meet again in the following weeks to try to clarify details about the project.

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MCT

Tens of thousands of Egyptians gather on Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, on January 25, 2012, the first anniversary of the revolution that toppled president Hosni Mubarak's regime.

CORRECTION

There were three judges at last Thursday's Innovation Challenge, not two as reported in Monday's story.

'The Square' screens on campus

The documentary is about the Egyptian Revolution of 2011.

By Neil Bodella
Staff Writer

Approximately 25 students and faculty attended an on-campus screening Tuesday night of "The Square," an Oscar-nominated documentary about the Egyptian Revolution in 2011.

Jehane Noujaim, an Egyptian-American director known for her documentary "Control Room," directed the film.

Through the eyes of the cast, the documentary chronologically follows the events that led to Egyptians flooding the streets of Cairo and occupying Tahrir Square as part of the Arab Spring movement.

The cast includes Khalid Abdalla, a British-Egyptian actor who starred in "The Kite Runner," Magdy Ashour, a father and member of the Muslim Brotherhood, and Ahmed Hassan, a street revolutionary.

"I think this film is quite a powerful film," said Ziad Abu-Rish, who led the discussion at the film screening. "Massive popular uprisings are a rare and difficult occurrence."

Abu-Rish is also the co-editor of "The Dawn of the Arab Uprisings."

The film captures the violent and sometimes fatal opposition faced by the revolutionaries through the lenses of their cameras, which then become their weapon against injustice.

"The driving force of the revolution is the will of the people," Abu-Rish said. "It's a beautiful message; the idea of having a collective conscience. The driving force to bring change defies the divisions of social stigmas."

As the events unfold and Hosni Mubarak, former president of Egypt, resigns, it appears the Egyptians have reclaimed their freedom, but soon realize nothing had changed. The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces that assumed control of the nation did not implement any substantial reforms so the revolutionaries returned to the streets.

"If you look at the reforms that happened, you see that there is none," Abu-Rish said. "When Mubarak fell, that is all that happened; the regime and structure stayed in place."

The film also captures the divisions that occur between the revolutionaries and the Muslim Brotherhood, a major political organization present in the film.

When presidential elections were held, Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood won, which the film depicted creating tension. Revolutionaries felt betrayed because they thought the brotherhood made a deal with the government, and they flooded the streets yet again.

In the end, Morsi resigned, but the revolutionaries in the film realized the changes they had intended to occur never took place. Hassan remarks, "the revolutionaries' biggest victory is that kids can now play protest."

"Other than the imprisonment of Mubarak, nothing really happens," said Abu-Rish. "No one was really tried for their crimes, there is no economic reform, and the secret police continues their extermination campaign against the Muslim Brotherhood."

Dream

Continued from Page 1

"Our charge is to really help create and build a campus environment that is safe for AB 540 and undocumented students," Perez said. "Finding support for these students is a high priority. I don't take my job lightly and want to make sure all students on campus feel safe and served."

He said that finding support for AB 540 students is a "high priority" for Para and the rest of administration.

"The fact that [Para] assigned a task force is enormous because that has never been done before," Perez said. "It's also tremendous that more funding has been put into training faculty to become official AB 540 allies."

Perez said that there are currently six faculty and staff members who are certified in training other faculty in how to deal with the situations of undocumented students. In these training sessions, they discuss who AB 540 students are, what challenges they face and how faculty can help them in and out of the classroom.

When the faculty and staff members complete their training, they become official AB 540 allies and receive stickers to display in their offices. Perez said this has hopefully added to breaking down a barrier between these students and faculty.

In addition to official ally training, Perez said, the task force has been collaborating with the financial aid staff in Brotman Hall so they can better assist AB 540 students.

Although an official center does not exist yet, Perez said, the CSULB administration and the AB 540 task force have been working to increase services for undocumented students in resources that already exist.

"I wish the decision [to create a DRC on campus] was up to me, but it's something the president and vice president will need to decide," Perez said.

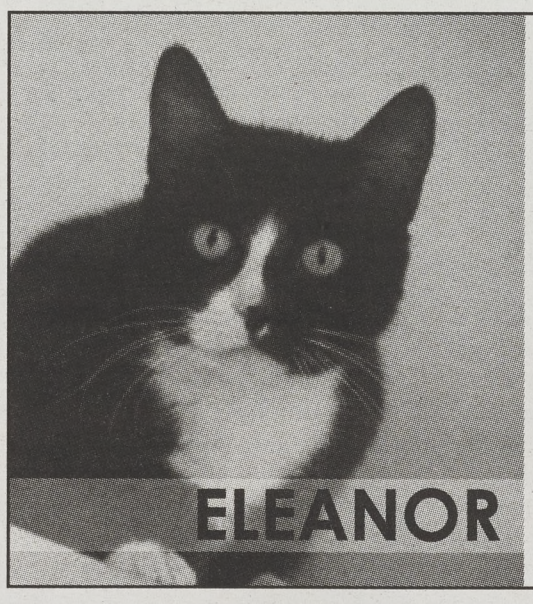
In response to undocumented students expressing the need for a "safe space" on campus, Perez said the task force is working with CSULB's Counseling and Psychological Services to create a peer group. The group would be led by a staff member and invite participants to come together and talk about their challenges.

Similar centers exist at several colleges in the state, such as University of California, Berkeley and University of California, Los Angeles.

None of the 23 campuses in the Cal State University system currently have a DRC; however, Cal State Northridge recently gave students the approval to establish a center that will open by the end of the semester, according to the Daily Sundial.

Suarez said it is important to invest in improving the academic lives of AB 540 students.

"Undocumented students have to incriminate themselves and reveal their status in order for their needs to be met ... They are not being adequately served," Suarez said. "We are a special needs community here on campus, but the issue is currently too political."



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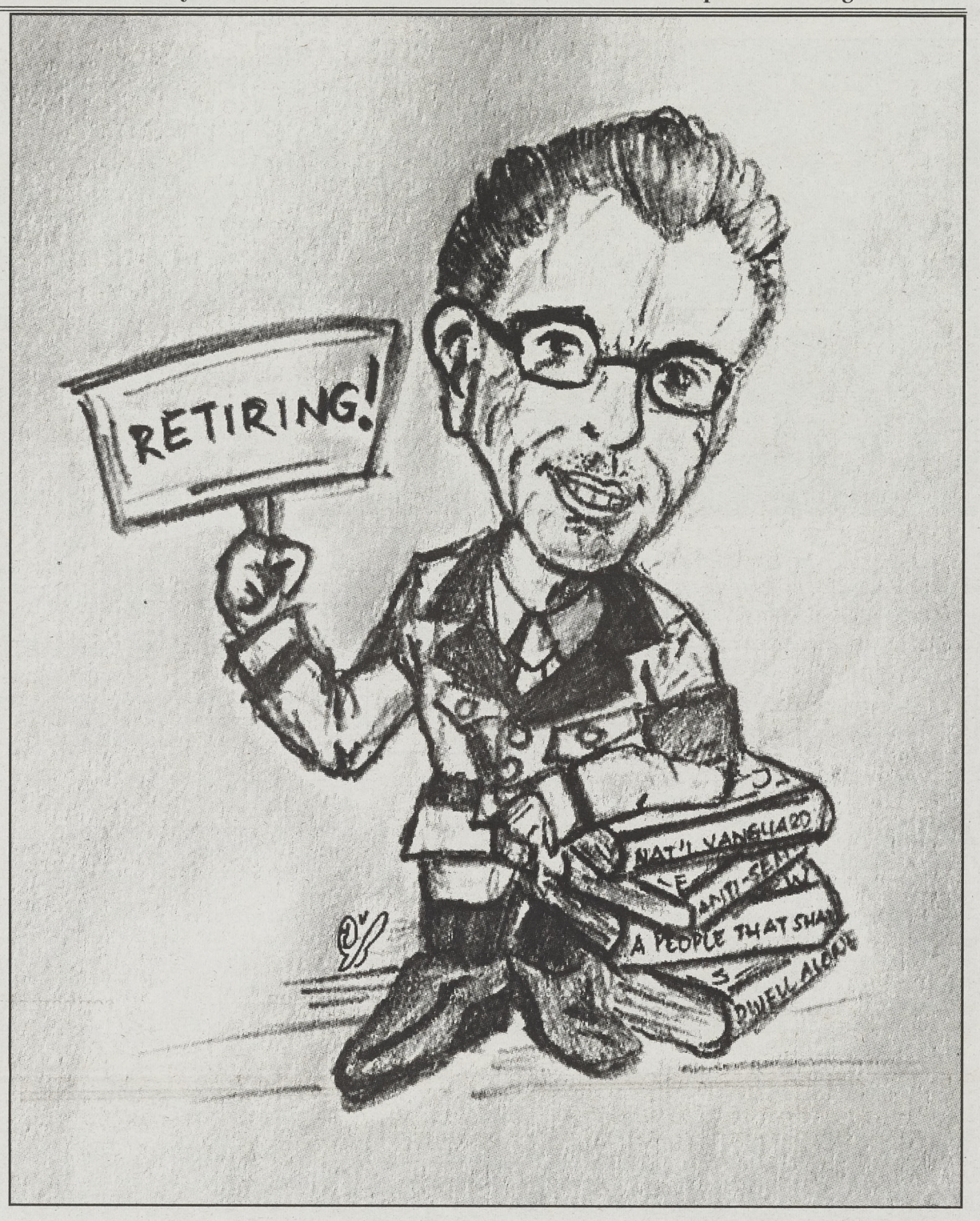
Our View:

Farewell to the notorious Professor Kevin MacDonald



It's hard to miss someone who you don't know, never hear from and, of course, don't really like.

Controversial Cal State Long Beach Professor Kevin B. MacDonald will only teach for one more semester here at The Beach. Are we sad? Not really.

We didn't really know him, and we don't think we would have wanted to. Over the course of his 30 years on campus, MacDonald became known as the CSULB-anti-Semite. He has written and continues to write content on his evolutionary theory about the Jewish population.

In the name of the First Amendment, we feel obligated to stand by MacDonald's right to feel how he feels, and express himself as he chooses. CSULB has supported his academic freedom, and so we do too.

Though, we do wonder what his true feelings about the Jewish community are, as it seems he hides any full-fledged anti-Semitism from the public.

In the aftermath of an investigation of his views led by the Southern Poverty Law Center, MacDonald included a disclaimer on the top of his website that claimed that his views are in no way evidence to suggest that he condones the Holocaust, or the like.

Many critics have argued that MacDonald's style of writing errs on the side of sugarcoating his radical hatred for Jewish people.

Of course, we don't agree with his controversial theories; we dislike his tendency to disguise anti-Semitism with scholastic style. As Americans, if we have to allow MacDonald his rights to his own opinion, we would like to hear them for what they are.

Is it too much to ask him to present his "White-supremacist" ideas in a manner that is not blanketed with scholarly nuances and hidden between well-written phrases?

On another note, some of his former students indicated that his widely known hatred for Jewish people was kept out of the classroom, and we thank MacDonald for maintaining a non-judgmental and non-discriminatory attitude while teaching.

Yes, we acknowledge that his years of writing and publishing his anti-Semitic views off campus remind many of Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf," but we feel that MacDonald never crossed the line between a hatred for Jewish people and violence.

So thank you, Professor MacDonald, for a career filled with controversial headlines. We much prefer your hateful words over any hateful actions your words may incite.

We will not miss you, but we do not condemn you in your retirement for your legacy at The Beach.

Daily 49er

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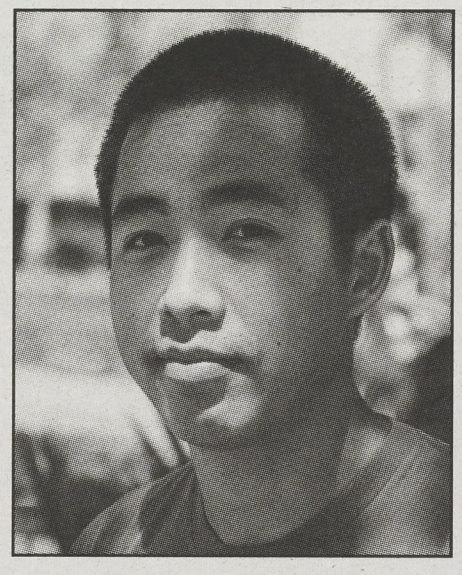
Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.

Campus Voice

Does Professor MacDonald's anti-Semitic research impact CSULB?



"Everyone has their own opinions so he can do whatever he wants, as long as he doesn't harm anyone."

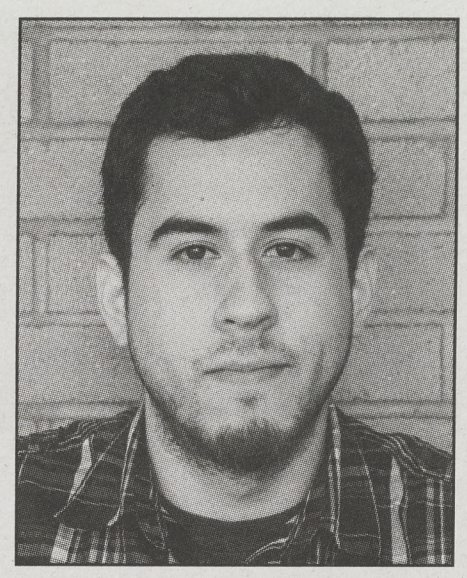
-Paul Im, junior kinesiology major

"I wouldn't argue with someone's views, as long as he's not imposing his views in the class."

-Ashley Newman, sophomore fashion merchandising major

"Every professor has their beliefs so if he's not teaching it in his classes, he shouldn't be pushed out."

-Emily Quinonez, sophomore communications major



"It's bad that he has these views, but he doesn't implement his views into CSULB."

-Memo Rosales, sophomore illustration major

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Journalism Day

How to survive and thrive in this crazy business

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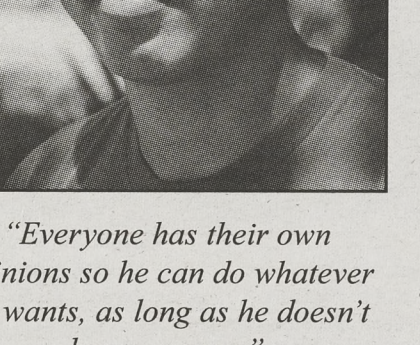

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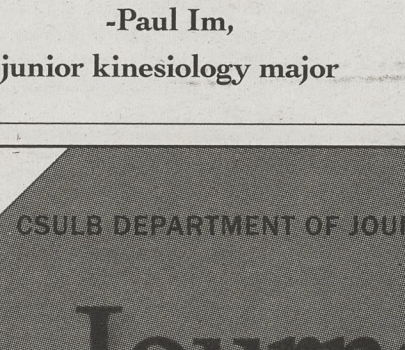

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9:30 a.m.	Keynote, Beverly White: Journalism is fun-damental
11 a.m.	Fred Cook: Unconventional career advice from an unlikely CEO
12:15 p.m.	Lunch and student awards
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Concurrent portfolio review sessions for journalism and public relations students

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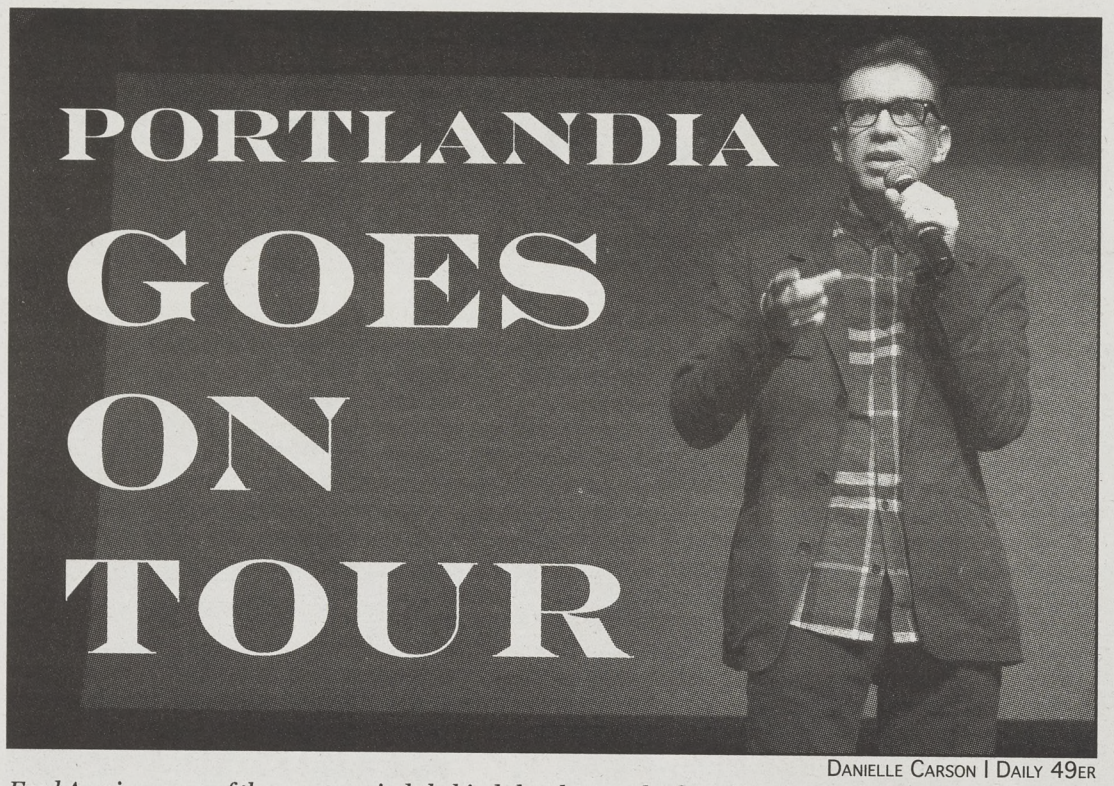


DANIELLE CARSON | DAILY 49ER

Fred Armisen, one of the masterminds behind sketch comedy show "Portlandia," visits the Observatory in Santa Ana Saturday as part of a tour that allows him to chat with his most faithful fans.

BY DANIELLE CARSON
Diversions Editor

Fred Armisen made a name for himself with SNL and The Tonight Show band, but now he's touring as an actor, drawing a fan base just as quirky as his hit show "Portlandia," which is currently in its fourth season.

Armisen said he went on the nationwide tour to watch new episodes of Portlandia the week before they air with his biggest fans across the nation. He has been to Rhode Island, Minnesota and Colorado, and on Saturday, he visited The Observatory in Santa Ana.

Directed by Jonathan Krisel, "Portlandia" is the brainchild of Armisen and his co-star Carrie Brownstein, and is often condemned — or celebrated — as a satirist take on the hipster fad. In each episode, the show pokes fun at the multiple niches found throughout the city of Portland.

The cast is predominantly made up of Armisen and Brownstein, who play not only the characters of Fred and Carrie, but also the recurring favorites including Peter and Nance, Spike and Iris, Nina and Lance, and Toni and Candace, the prudish owners of Women and Women First bookstore.

> "Surround yourself with people that make you laugh."
>
> —Fred Armisen, co-writer and co-star of "Portlandia"

Through flawless costuming and impeccable acting, Armisen and Brownstein are able to embody the diverse subcultures that comprise the city of Portland.

On Saturday night, Armisen showed episode 8 of season 4.

Like every episode of the one-of-a-kind sketch comedy show, the new episode makes a statement by poking fun at different subcultures that we all recognize in our society.

The new episode comments on masculinity in gay culture, pun business names and adults that want to experience the psychedelic drug culture they missed out on.

While many would guess that the show is a dramatization of life in Portland, Armisen said that the show is truly representative of the city, where Brownstein grew up. He said that they simply wanted to exaggerate the very specific lifestyle that is found there.

After the viewing and a hearty applause, fans scurried to line up along the stage and the perimeter of the pit-turned auditorium for the Q&A.

He answered all questions asked, while encouraging attendees to take photographs.

As revealed in the Q&A, "Portlandia" is also well known for its medley of guest stars that have included fellow SNL veterans and other stars, including Kirsten Dunst and Jeff Goldblum. Armisen said that guest stars are vital to the show, and for Brownstein-and him, they are just a text message away.

Not only are the guest stars easy to recruit, but the Portland police even made a guest appearance in the new episode.

"That city is so laid back," Armisen said.

While recruiting guest stars is a breeze, Armisen said that the toughest part is making sure the sketches draw laughs.

He said that the sketches at the Women and Women First Bookstore are his favorite as a duo with Brownstein, as they have fun trying to keep their sexuality as ambiguous as possible while being ludicrous at the same time.

Armisen said the majority of conversational dialogue is improvised to keep scenes as natural as possible. After all, the natural feeling of the interactions on "Portlandia" is what make the show such a hit.

Armisen is one of few celebrities comfortable enough to watch his show in the audience with his fans and hold a 30-minute Q&A session afterwards. In fact, the Q&A was so full of action and character that it truly could have made its own 30 minute episode of "Portlandia."

Some of the guests were emotional, some were nervous and others were just plain bold.

A fan holding a tall can of Pabst Blue Ribbon asked him to reenact the popular "Cacao scene" from season 1, episode 2. She put her lipstick on him, watched him starry-eyed as he resurrected the character, then grabbed his face and planted a sloppy one.

When an audience member told him that she had driven ten hours to see him, he jumped off the stage to give her a hug.

His advice for aspiring screenwriters was as laid-back as he was with fans. When a mother and her sons approached him, the mother thanked him for making her laugh for years and years, and asked for screenwriting advice for her son, quivering with excitement and on the verge of tears.

"Surround yourself with people that make you laugh," Armisen said.

Episode 8 of Portlandia's fourth season is set to air tomorrow at 10 p.m.

Wes Anderson's new film is grand

BY ZACH NIX
Staff Writer

"The Grand Budapest Hotel" is Wes Anderson's eighth feature length film, and features Anderson's most impressive cast yet to play the fun characters in this quirky date story.

Since 1996, Anderson has been providing moviegoers with unique and dramatic comedies that are hilarious, emotional and beautiful to look at.

Anderson has become one of the great contemporary auteurs thanks to his unique visual style, dry humor and impressive ensembles that tend to include the likes of Bill Murray, Owen Wilson, Jason Schwarztman and many, many more.

The film bounces between three time periods, between which the viewer can distinguish by their own varying aspect ratios, or the proportion of width to height of the image or screen. The majority of the film's narrative takes place in 1932 and is presented in an aspect ratio rarely used in contemporary film. The differing ratios are a real pleasure to watch.

The "Grand Budapest Hotel's" main narrative concerns a young Zero Moustafa (Tony Revolori in a career-making role) who becomes a lobby boy at the Grand Budapest Hotel. Gustave (Ralph Fiennes), the hotel's concierge, is a cheerful man with a taste for elderly women. He immediately takes a liking to Zero and the two strike up a friendship.

After the passing of one of Gustave's suitors (Tilda Swinton), her belongings are given out at the reading of her will. It is here where Gustave's claim to a famous painting, Boy With Apple, is declared.

However, the deceased woman's son (a hilarious Adrien Brody) and his right hand man (a devilish Willem Dafoe) do not approve of Gustave receiving the painting. Gustave is mysteriously found guilty of murder the next day. Zero must then help prove Gustave innocent and break him out of jail in the process.

That was just the small gist of the story, as trying to describe the plot and every single character of the film is a real chore.

"The Grand Budapest Hotel" is full of delightful and unique characters, most notably Fiennes' Gustave, who is a fantastic lead role.

After seeing Fiennes be so villainous in films such as the Harry Potter series, "Clash of the Titans" and "Schindler's List", it's a real treat to see him play an eccentric and delightful character here.

Anderson continues to tell interesting stories and presents the viewer with interesting characters in his films.

Despite this, "The Grand Budapest Hotel" was my least favorite of his films because the film was so plot driven and not very character driven, as are his previous films.

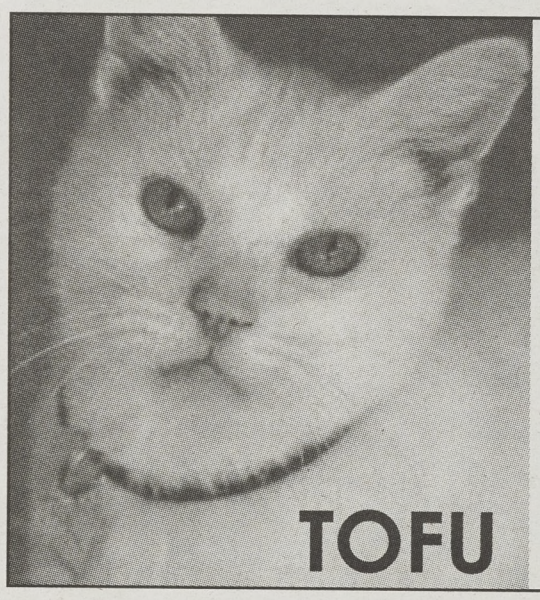
While this film is filled with characters, I believe that they are all in service of the plot and don't get enough time to breathe as characters.

Instead, a few characters are allowed to be fleshed out while others are reduced to small roles or cameos, such as Owen Wilson's, Bill Murray's and Jason Schwarztman's characters.

Anderson is clearly having fun showcasing over-the-top characters and designing sets and productions that no one else in Hollywood is even attempting to make. Because of these efforts, "The Grand Budapest Hotel" is still a fantastic and solid film from simply a story and art direction stand point.

Even though "The Grand Budapest Hotel" is my least favorite Anderson work, there is no such thing as a bad Anderson film. Like the rest of his films, Anderson's most recent outing is filled with whimsy, quirkiness and dry humor.

I highly recommend giving his latest a shot whether you are new to his filmography or a seasoned Anderson-devotee.



TOFU

Size: Medium
Gender: Male
Color: White
Breed: Domestic short-haired
Age: 08/2000

House Trained, Altered, Microchipped, current on shots

Description: Hi, I am Tofu. I am an older gentleman with striking green eyes. I love to lay on the window sill and enjoy the fresh air and wonder about birds. I am also friendly and affectionate with people, but would do best as an only cat. I have been dreaming of having my own home again where I can enjoy my senior years.

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DAILY 49ER

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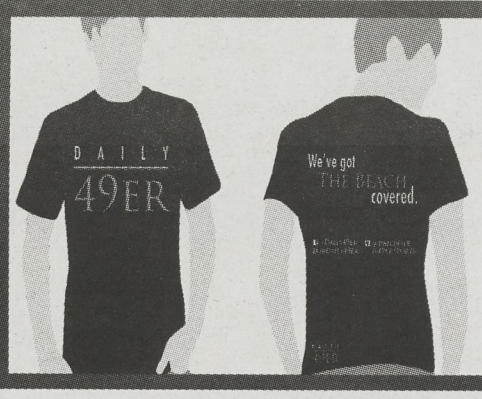

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DEC. JAN. FEB. MAR.
APR. MAY JUNE JULY

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29	30	31				

LBSU beat up on Hawaii last week and will look to continue its success in Fullerton this weekend.

SARAH BOREAN | DAILY 49ER

49ers to face rivals on television

Long Beach State will face Cal State Fullerton in a three-game series televised by ESPN networks.

BY OSCAR TERRONES
Staff Writer

The Long Beach State softball team will look to stay perfect in conference play as it goes on the road to face rival Cal State Fullerton. The 49ers' 9-0 record is the best conference start in school history.

The 49ers (32-9) won't have their normal practice schedule and rest, as the series starts on Wednesday and finishes on Thursday with a double-header. Head coach Kim Sowder, though, isn't worried about the quick turnaround.

"We had a day off yesterday," Sowder said. "We got a little bit of rest. We'll have a good practice today and talk about Fullerton a little bit. I think both teams are in the same situation, so it's no advantage or disadvantage to either team."

CSUF (24-17-1) got off to an excellent start this season, winning eight out of its first nine games. The Titans are just 5-4 in conference after losing two out of three against UC Riverside. The Titans, however, have one of the best hitters in the Big West in Missy Taukeiaho. Not only does the infielder lead the conference in home runs with 13, she's also hitting an impressive .413.

A major reason for the 49ers' success has been the contributions from their seniors. The 49ers have eight seniors, six of which have been major contributors on the field. All, though, have been crucial to the team's chemistry.

"[Seniors] have shown great leadership, along with the junior class," Sowder said. "They're working together; working really hard in practice. I'm really proud of them."

One senior who the 49ers have leaned heavily on is pitcher Erin Jones-Wesley, who continues to cement her place not only in Long Beach State history but also in the Big West Conference. Jones-Wesley was named the Big West pitcher of the year after two more complete game victories. She has now been honored a Big West record 15 times in her career. The previous record holder was Long Beach States' own Brook Turner, who won the award 14 times from 2008- 2011.

With the exception of oft-used right-hander Ariana Erceg, who's dealing with an elbow issue, the 49ers are the healthiest they've been since the start of the season.

"A couple aches and pains, but nothing that's going to keep anyone from playing," Sowder said.

The series against Fullerton will be the third consecutive series that'll be shown on the ESPN family of networks. All three games against Hawaii were shown on ESPN 3. The first game will be broadcast on ESPNU, with Thursday's double-header on ESPN 3. The 49ers have yet to lose a contest in front of a major TV audience.

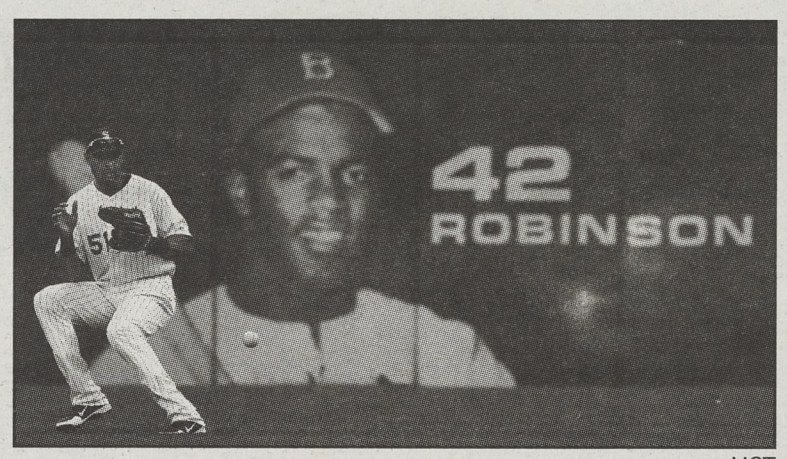
With the team on pace to being one of the best in school history, Sowder said it's important to maintain focus on their goals.

"We're off to a good start, but that's all it is, a start," Sowder said. "We've got a long way to go, a lot of games to where we'd like to be. They're playing well right now and I'm really happy with the way they're playing."

COMMENTARY

67 years later, Jackie Robinson's impact is still legendary

ALEX CAMPOS
Assistant Sports Editor



MCT

Jackie Robinson's number 42 makes a reappearance every April 15.

Watching a Major League Baseball game on April 15 can be extremely confusing to the casual fan.

I was watching a game last April 15 with a friend, who was really confused as to why everyone was wearing a number 42 jersey.

If you have basic knowledge of baseball, civil rights, or recent Harrison Ford movies, you probably know that the number 42 was worn by former Brooklyn Dodger Jackie Robinson, the first African-American player in the major leagues.

Robinson, who grew up in Pasadena, made his major league debut on April 15, 1947. Sixty-seven years ago, Robinson took the field at first base at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn. According to Sports Illustrated, he had a few teammates that drew up a petition saying that they preferred to be traded than to play with a black teammate.

Despite the racist times and animosity that Robinson faced, he arguably became the face of the MLB. When he played, fans came out to the ballpark as every other baseball team drew their highest crowds when Robinson and the Dodgers came to town. Maybe it was to throw stuff and yell at him, or maybe it was because deep down, people knew they had a chance to witness history in the making.

Robinson retired in 1956, two years before the Dodgers came out west. He threw the honorary first pitch at the 1972 World Series, but died nine days later at the age of 53. To this day, Major League Baseball honors him on April 15. His number 42 is retired by every team, with former Yankee closer Mariano Rivera being the last major leaguer to wear it every day.

Despite Robinson's impact, the number of black players in baseball is falling. In 1981, almost 19 percent of players on opening day rosters were black. In the 2014 season, less than 8 percent of players on opening day rosters were black, according to USA Today. There are 67 black players in the major leagues, but three teams do not have one — the San Francisco Giants, Arizona Diamondbacks and St. Louis Cardinals. The Long Beach State Dirtbags also do not have a 100 percent black player on their roster.

Despite the low number of black players in the major leagues, their impact is still visible to this day. Pittsburgh Pirates center fielder Andrew McCutchen is the reigning National League Most Valuable Player, Dodgers center fielder Matt Kemp is one of the best players in baseball when healthy and Angels second baseman Howie Kendrick has been one of the most consistent Angels players over the past few years.

The most recent U.S. census information states that 13.1 percent of the U.S. population is black. At below 8 percent, MLB is still a little behind when it comes to attracting black athletes.

Regardless of the demographics in the league, April 15 is the day to remember and honor Jackie Robinson, a true pioneer of civil rights and a dynamic athlete. So when you see a mass of people wearing the number 42 on one specific day, you'll understand why.

SPORTS CALENDAR

Wednesday
Softball
at Cal State Fullerton, 4 p.m.
Fullerton, Calif.

Outdoor track
Mt. Sac Multis, All Day
Azusa, Calif.

Thursday
Women's sand volleyball
vs. Saint Mary's, 1 p.m.
LBSU sand courts

Softball
at Cal State Fullerton, 4 p.m.
at Cal State Fullerton, 6:30 p.m.
Fullerton, Calif.

Baseball
vs. UC Santa Barbara, 6 p.m.
Blair Field

Women's water polo
at UC Irvine, 7 p.m.
Irvine, Calif.

Outdoor track
Mt. Sac Relays, All Day
Walnut, Calif.

Outdoor track
Mt. Sac Multis, All Day
Azusa, Calif.

Friday
Women's tennis
at UC Riverside, 1 p.m.
Riverside, Calif.

Baseball
vs. UC Santa Barbara, 6 p.m.
Blair Field

Women's sand volleyball
vs. Hawaii, TBA
vs. Cal Poly, TBA
Huntington Beach, Calif.

Outdoor track
Beach Invitational, All Day
Norwalk, Calif.

Outdoor track
Mt. Sac Relays, All Day
Walnut, Calif.

Saturday
Baseball
vs. UC Santa Barbara, 2 p.m.
Blair Field

Men's volleyball
at Pepperdine, 7 p.m.
Malibu, Calif.

Women's sand volleyball
Big West Challenge, All Day
Huntington Beach, Calif.

Outdoor track
Beach Invitational, All Day
Norwalk, Calif.

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